



what have you  
to do with me,  
**JESUS,**  
son of the  
most high God?

LUKE 8:28

# FAITHFUL LUTHERANS SENT BY CHRIST TO SERVE GOD'S CHILDREN

June 20, 2010

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# FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.flcjeff.org  
2014 Allison Lane  
Jeffersonville, Indiana  
Rev. Scott Meier, Pastor  
282-6993 (Office) ♦ 260-273-1250 (Pastor)

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## **WELCOME!**

All are welcome at Faith Lutheran Church today as we continue our journey of faith. Join with us as we offer our praises to God. We offer Holy Communion each Sunday. All baptized persons who believe that Christ is truly present in this meal are welcome to receive the Lord's Supper. There is a nursery available for those who need it. A red Fellowship Pad is at the end of each pew, please pass it down the pew so everyone can sign for the day, this helps us know visitors and have vital information

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The Flowers today are given to the glory of God by Trish Perry & Charlotte Davis in memory of Bob Davis.

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## **LAST WEEK AT FAITH:**

### OFFERINGS:

Current	\$ 2491.25
Other	\$ 85.00
Total	\$ 2576.25

### ATTENDANCE:

Worship	56
Nursery	<u>2</u>
	68

We need at least \$3236.00 in **current** each week to continue the missions of our church. How did we do last week? Thanks to all who worship, work, give, and pray at Faith in thanks to God for His many blessings.

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## **SERVING THIS WEEK AT FAITH:**

Pastor ... Scott Meier	Acolyte.. Volunteer
Assistant... Virginia Klemens	Greeters.. Kate & Jessi Scott
Organist... Barb Brewster	Social.. Johnson
Fin. Asst... Barb Brewster	Audio.. Lyle Gernand
Nursery .....Lisa Peter	
Altar Guild..Volunteer	
Ushers... Tami & Fred Czerwonka, Scott & Veronica Rife	

**Next week:** Assistant; V. Rife, Acolyte; Volunteer Greeters; B. Wright Social; Klemens Audio; L. Gernand  
Ushers; T. & F. Czerwoonka, S. & V. Rife

## **Events & Activities This Week Around Faith:**

Today, June 20	9:15 am Adult SCS
	10:30 am Worship
	After; Coffee Fellowship
Mon., June 21	10:00 am Faithful Quilters
Sun., June 27	9:15 am Adult SCS
	10:30 am Worship
	After; Coffee Fellowship
	PLOT Meeting

## **REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS:**

Betty McLaughlin      Norma Boehme

Our Service Men & women and all those in need of our thoughts and prayers in our Faith Family and beyond.

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## **Announcements**

**COUNCIL:** There is NO council meeting for June, meeting schedule will resume in July.

**NEWSLETTER:** The June/July newsletter is in your mailbox. The editor and secretary apologize for the delay in getting this out to you.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** The adult class has decided to continue to meet during the SCS hour during the summer months. Please consider joining us.

**ATTENDANCE:** Please take a moment to complete the attendance sheet in the maroon folder in the right hand side of the pew.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:** Our volunteer coordinator is looking for volunteers for the summer months in the following areas: worship assistant, greeters, social, & ushers. Please see Veronica Rife following the service today in the narthex. Thanks for your help.

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 65:1-9**

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,  
to be found by those who did not seek me.  
I said, "Here I am, here I am,"  
to a nation that did not call on my name.  
<sup>2</sup>I held out my hands all day long  
to a rebellious people,  
who walk in a way that is not good,  
following their own devices;  
<sup>3</sup>a people who provoke me  
to my face continually,  
sacrificing in gardens  
and offering incense on bricks;  
<sup>4</sup>who sit inside tombs,  
and spend the night in secret places;  
who eat swine's flesh,  
with broth of abominable things in their vessels;  
<sup>5</sup>who say, "Keep to yourself,  
do not come near me, for I am too holy for you."  
These are a smoke in my nostrils,  
a fire that burns all day long.  
<sup>6</sup>See, it is written before me:  
I will not keep silent, but I will repay;  
I will indeed repay into their laps  
<sup>7</sup>their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together,  
says the LORD;  
because they offered incense on the mountains  
and reviled me on the hills,  
I will measure into their laps  
full payment for their actions.  
<sup>8</sup>Thus says the LORD:  
As the wine is found in the cluster,  
and they say, "Do not destroy it,  
for there is a blessing in it,"  
so I will do for my servants' sake,  
and not destroy them all.  
<sup>9</sup>I will bring forth descendants from Jacob,  
and from Judah inheritors of my mountains;  
my chosen shall inherit it,  
and my servants shall settle there.

**Psalm 22:19-28**

**SECOND READING: Galatians 3:23-29 [not printed]**

**GOSPEL: Luke 8:26-39**

Then [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. <sup>27</sup>As he stepped out on land, a man of the city who had demons met him. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he did not live in a house but in the tombs. <sup>28</sup>When he saw Jesus, he fell down before him and shouted at the top of his voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me"—  
<sup>29</sup>for Jesus had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many times it had seized him; he was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by

# An Organized Mess

This story is a mess. The first half is a litany of unclean things, a veritable list of messy stuff to avoid. Jesus encounters a man possessed by demons and an “unclean spirit” (for more on unclean, see Luke 4:33). The man’s nakedness doesn’t necessarily make him unclean but is definitely shameful (see Rev. 16:15). This demoniac lives in the tombs, which are unclean because of dead bodies (see Num. 6:6). Near the tombs and the demoniac are pigs, also unclean (see Lev. 11:4-8). Get the point? Luke is making sure the reader does not miss the point that this is an overwhelming place of unclean demons, death, and dirt.

However, it is an *organized* mess. The Gerasenes have found a convenient way to keep all the unclean things—demoniac, the dead, and swine—cloistered away on the periphery. This is an institutionalized form of violence. Keep the dead and dirty on the side, demonize them, and all the normal, clean folk can go about their daily business. Out of sight, out of mind. Clutter in the corner is somehow more acceptable than everywhere in the room.

This helps explain why the Gerasenes are afraid when they see the demoniac clothed, clean, and sitting at Jesus’ feet. The pigs are drowned, the man is clean. Anything could happen now! If the unclean space can be so dramatically cleaned up, what might happen to all the places that were already clean and fine? That dirty demoniac might actually come back to town and, of all things, proclaim the revolutionary message of Jesus. The clutter in the corner might actually, through Christ’s healing ministry, become the centerpiece that adorns and sanctifies the space. Are the comfortable comfortable with the idea of not only becoming neighbors again with the afflicted and demonized, but actually learning to be faithful from and with them? Are we?

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*Gospel, continued*

the demon into the wilds.) <sup>30</sup>Jesus then asked him, “What is your name?” He said, “Legion”; for many demons had entered him. <sup>31</sup>They begged him not to order them to go back into the abyss.

<sup>32</sup>Now there on the hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and the demons begged Jesus to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. <sup>33</sup>Then the demons came out of the man and entered the swine, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and was drowned.

<sup>34</sup>When the swineherds saw what had happened, they ran off and told it in the city and in the country. <sup>35</sup>Then people came out to see what had happened, and when they came to Jesus, they found the man from whom the demons had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind. And they were afraid. <sup>36</sup>Those who had seen it told them how the one who had been possessed by demons had been healed. <sup>37</sup>Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. <sup>38</sup>The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him; but Jesus sent him away, saying, <sup>39</sup>“Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you.” So he went away, proclaiming throughout the city how much Jesus had done for him.

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**Next Sunday’s Readings:** 1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21; Psalm 16; Galatians 5:1, 13-25; Luke 9:51-62.

Cover: The Swine of Gergesa or The Healing of the Demoniacs, Jesus and an Apostle (mosaic), Byzantine (6th century) S. Apollinare Nuovo, Ravenna, Italy; photo © Erich Lessing/Art Resource. Used by permission.

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